

THREE SCORE LIVES LOST IN SHOE FACTORY HORROR AT BROCKTON, MASS., TODAY.

TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE FROM BOILER EXPLOSION

Boiler in Factory of R. B. Grover Shoe Co. Exploded, Causing Three Floors to Collapse with Between Two and Three Hundred Employees in the Ruins.

RUINS CATCH AFIRE, ADDING TO THE HORROR

The Cries and Shrieks of the Victims Under the Burning Ruins Were Terrible—Flames Spread Rapidly to Adjoining Property Causing \$250,000 Loss.

Brockton, Mass., March 20.—The explosion of a boiler in the R. B. Grover shoe company's factory, makers of the Emerson shoe, caused the death of 60 people and the serious injury to many others this morning, while the loss of property is estimated to be quarter of a million. The catastrophe is the most serious in the history of this city, the scene resulting being such as to turn the hearts of the most tried physicians, police and firemen.

The following are the places burned: Shoe factory of R. B. Grover & Co. Dohaborg block. Tavern building.

John Taft's house; August Burgess' house; Mrs. Halm Holmquist's house; C. O. Peterson's house; Engineer Rockwell's cottage; Mrs. Hood's house was damaged by the boiler and partially burned. The buildings were of wood.

The estimates of the dead in the ruins vary from fifty to 75. The fire was under control at half past ten o'clock, but the searching over of the ruins was begun only shortly before noon. Eighteen bodies have been taken out. The known dead are:

Albin Dahaborg, Mrs. Elijah H. Kelley, Linus Swanson, Mrs. John Landers. The loss is estimated at \$200,000.

There were about four hundred people at work in the factory at the time. Immediately after the explosion, which occurred at 7:50 o'clock, the three floors above the boiler collapsed. The entire west half of the factory was razed to the ground by the shock. Flames at once broke out. And in the ruins were from two to three hundred of the 400 people at work in the building. In a few minutes the ruins were a mass of flames. The fourth floor with the finishing room girls fell to the ground also.

Work of Rescue was Stopped.

The work of rescue was begun by the police and firemen, and the first two bodies recovered were so horribly burned that they could not be identified. The front of the factory caught fire, driving out the rescuers from that part of the building. So rapidly did the flames spread that at nine o'clock the entire four-story structure was a mass of blazing ruins, with fallen walls. Then the fire was communicated to the adjoining buildings. The Dahaborg block was the first to catch fire, then the old Drake Tavern, near the factory. As many firemen as could be spared from the work of rescue fought the flames valiantly, but seemed powerless to check the advance. In almost no time, seven buildings, mostly houses on Denton street, were ablaze.

The cries and shrieks of those pinned under the fallen ruins and held down by beams and timbers were heartrending. Such shrieks and such a horror were never known in Brockton before. The cries were heard for half a mile. Then the flames and smoke enveloped the victims and the voices were drowned. Many of those who were being roasted alive were seen by the rescuers who were unable to get at them; and the victims perished before their eyes. The rescuers were compelled to abandon them to their fate.

The injured were taken to the neighboring houses and were cared for by the physicians, every doctor in the city being called to the work. One of the doctors who came away from the scene of the accident and went to the hos-

pital to work, said the accident is the worst in all his experience, and that the injuries to many of the survivors were the most terrible he had ever seen.

Estimates of the Dead.

The reports of the number of dead vary, and in fact it will be some time before the exact number is known. The first report said that there might be fifty killed. Then as the magnitude of the catastrophe became apparent, the estimates increased, until it was reported that the dead alone might reach over one hundred, while the injured will swell the casualty list greatly.

The flames spread from the doomed factory building to the Churchill & Alden shoe factory across the street. These were saved, however.

The Cause of the Accident.

The boiler which exploded was used for the first time Saturday night, after lying idle all winter. It was apparently as sound as a bell. The boiler was blown a hundred yards, crushing through the roof of the cottage house of Engineer Rockwell and landing against the cottage house of Mrs. Hood. City Marshal Boyden told the Publishers Press correspondent that he was the first to arrive on the scene. "We did all we could to rescue the people," he said, "but there were many we could not get to. They were pinned down and could not get out. I saw the wife of John Landers, master mechanic at George E. Keith company's, cut in two. There in the ruins we could do nothing. One man we dragged out of the ruins. We had to wrench his leg and tear his clothing from him in the effort. The flames seemed to shoot from the midst of the ruins and toward us. And a moment later we were driven away and could do nothing."

31 Bodies Recovered at 2 O'Clock. Up to two o'clock thirty-one bodies had been recovered.

TWENTY-FOUR MEN WERE KILLED.

Two Explosions in a West Virginia Mine Saturday Night, Last of Which Was Due to Carelessness on Part of the Explorers.

Charleston, W. Va., March 20.—As the result of the explosion in the Bush Run and Red Ash mines near Thurmond Saturday night, 24 men are dead in the two mines. Ten of these were killed in the explosion Saturday night and the other 14 were a rescuing party who entered the mine yesterday. These latter were killed by a second explosion and the after damp. The first explosion seemed to shake the foundations of the mountains and the flash from the two neighboring drift mouths lighted up the heavens for miles around. The first explosion was caused by a "naked" flame coming in contact with the gas. The flames leaped from the drift mouth and set fire to everything in reach. The great drum by which the loaded cars are run from the drift mouth down the incline to the tippie was blown from its moorings and down the mountain side 600 feet while the drum house caught fire and was destroyed.

A rescue party was formed and about 30 men entered the mine in search of the bodies of those who had perished at the first explosion. The men explored the mines for two or three hours, putting up brattices so that pure air should follow them wherever they went. Finally some of them came out and reported that the others were too careless in going forward faster than the good air was being supplied, carrying at the same time a "naked" light. At 3:45 the second explosion occurred, caused by the gas coming in contact with the "naked" flame of a miner's lamp and 14 more men were dead.

FIVE BUILDINGS COLLAPSE.

Bad Construction Alleged to Be the Cause.

New York, March 20.—Five buildings of five and six stories in course of construction in Harlem collapsed yesterday and although many lives were placed in danger, no fatalities were reported. Bad construction is alleged to be the cause, the defects being brought out by the sudden change from cold to warm weather.

WRECK ON THE RUTLAND.

One Man Killed and Two Others Badly Hurt Yesterday.

Malone, N. Y., March 20.—A Rutland railroad freight train ran into a wash-out one mile east of here yesterday morning, and as a result three men were badly injured, one of whom, Andy Shuts, died late last night.

The engine dropped down 10 feet and sank into the soft mud almost out of sight. Seven cars went over the top of the engine and scattered down the bank, leaving their trucks in the cab of the engine. Merchandise of every description, which was in transit to merchants here, was thrown into fields and swamps.

BRITISH PLAYERS GETTING BIG LEAD

In Saturday's Games Britishers Won 10 to 2 by the Americans and 8 Were Drawn Games—Play Will Be Resumed Today.

Boston, March 20.—A decided defeat for the American team and a victory by the British team is the estimated outcome of the great 10-day international checker tournament, as foreseen by "ring-side experts" at the close of the fourth day's playing.

The score for the Saturday afternoon session:

ENGLAND	UNITED STATES
Stewart	W. Hill
Buchanan	Barker
R. Jordan	Denver
Ferrie	Schaffer
Ferrie	Schaffer
Seagrigh	Reynolds
Gardner	Helfner
Hynd	Grover
Hollwell	Dearborn
Morrall	Head

Total.....Total.....2 15

The score for the Saturday evening session:

ENGLAND	UNITED STATES
Stewart	W. Hill
Buchanan	Barker
R. Jordan	Denver
Seagrigh	Reynolds
A. Jordan	Hill
A. Jordan	Hill
Gardner	Helfner
Hynd	Grover
Morrall	Head
Hollwell	Dearborn

Total.....Total.....0 13

The results of the tournament to date are: British won 25, Americans won 15, drawn 20.

PRISONER ESCAPED.

Henry Myers Broke Open Door in Winoski Cell.

Winoski, March 20.—Henry Myers, who was arrested Saturday evening by Officer Joseph Abair for intoxication and placed in the Lafayette lockup for safe keeping, successfully broke jail some time early Sunday morning, has not been recaptured. Myers was placed in one of the heavy steel cages at the lockup and the door securely fastened with a heavy padlock. Officer Abair visited the prisoner about 5:30 o'clock on Sunday morning and found him secure and apparently contented. About 7:30 the officer again visited the place to give the man his breakfast and found him missing. The door was open and the padlock was lying on the window sill. Lying across the bunk was a heavy iron bar with which the prisoner evidently broke the lock from its fastenings. After leaving the cell it was a comparatively easy matter to gain the outside air, as the door is fastened with a much smaller lock and which was easily taken off from the inside. The police and sheriff forces were notified and a search was kept up all day for the escaped prisoner, but all search was futile.

PLUNGED DOWN BANK.

Two Persons May Die as Result of a Wreck in Indiana.

Hammond, Ind., March 20.—Erie passenger train No. 7, known as the Pacific express, while running at the rate of 60 miles an hour near Winfield station yesterday, plunged down a 20-foot embankment, injuring 12 people, two of whom may die.

The wreck was caused by the auxiliary reservoir under the engine cab dropping into a switch frog which caught the front truck of the tender. The engine remained on the track but six cars tumbled over and rolled down the embankment.

N. E. O. P. GRAND LODGE.

Annual Session to Be Held in Burlington, April 25.

St. Johnsbury, March 20.—The 16th annual session of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, New England Order of Protection, will be held in Burlington, Tuesday, April 25. The Grand Lodge will open in the Knights of Pythias hall at 10 a. m. and continue through the day and evening. The railroads will extend their usual reduced rate courtesies and the headquarters of the Grand Lodge officers will be at the Van Ness House. It is expected that several of the supreme lodge officers will be present at this session.

Scotland's Greatest Contralto.

Clan Gordon No. 12 has secured Miss Tina Crawford, Scotland's greatest contralto, and Miss Agnes Hyde, queen of society entertainers, to give a grand concert comprising Scotch, English and Irish melodies, humorous sketches and humorous readings, etc., at the Barre opera house Tuesday, March 28th. Admission, 35, 50 and 75 cents.

This is what the London Times says of Miss Crawford: "Next appeared Miss Tina Crawford, a contralto vocalist, who possesses a brilliant voice, singing no less than eight songs. Miss Crawford is to be envied the possession of such a glorious voice, which fairly enchanted hearers, who showed their appreciation by calling her to the front again and again. No doubt Miss Crawford is the finest contralto we have heard for a long time."

ATTEMPT WAS FOILED

Russians Tried to Counter on Victorious Army.

KAIYUAN IS NOW OCCUPIED

This Is a point Twenty Miles North of Tieling—Retreating Army Burned Bridges South of That Town.

London, March 20.—Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, makes public the following:

"One detachment at 4 a. m. March 19 occupied Kaiyuan, twenty miles north of Tieling. The enemy again attempted a counter attack, but was repulsed. "The enemy burned the bridges on the main road south of Kaiyuan and also destroyed part of the railroad bridge."

"A number of Russian guns have been found buried near Mukden."

CONTINUE CONCENTRATION.

Efforts of General Linevitch as Despatched to St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, March 20.—Commander-in-Chief Linevitch, in a telegram dated Saturday, says: "On March 17, Japanese batteries bombarded our divisions in the vicinity of Lavanpin and Yapu. The enemy appeared near Kaitaike (on the railroad about twenty-two miles north of Tie pass), and their cavalry have occupied Fakoman. Our armies continue their concentration."

LOOKS LIKE PEACE.

Russia Said to Have Ordered Delay in Delivering War Materials.

Birmingham, Eng., March 20.—The Post says that Russia has given instructions to German and other continental contractors for war material to postpone delivery of large quantities of stores for the present.

The same paper is informed by high diplomats that two or three of the great powers, including Great Britain, are considering the proposal to convene an international congress to end the Russo-Japanese contest, and to revise the rules of warfare. Among the matters needing discussion are questions relating to prisoners of war and their maintenance.

NORTHFIELD CUTTER DEAD.

John Dower Died From Typhoid Pneumonia. Burial at Westerly.

Northfield, March 20.—John Dower of Westerly, R. I., died at the home of W. A. Blake Friday night at 12 o'clock from typhoid pneumonia, after an illness of five weeks. He was 45 years old and leaves a wife and four children. He was a stone cutter, employed at the sheds of the E. R. Ellis Granite company. Prayer was held at Mr. Blake's on Saturday morning by the Rev. E. W. Sharp. The body was sent to Westerly on the 9:30 train for burial.

Buys a Bethel Block.

Bethel, March 20.—E. A. Maxham has sold to Luther B. Johnson, publisher of the Bethel Courier, his store on Main street. Guy Wilson, town clerk, will have an office in this building. The store will be fitted up for a printing house at once, and the shop moved from its present location in Bethel town block.

Had Lots of Brass.

Burlington, March 20.—The matter of the theft of the brass from the Central Vermont and the Rutland railroad shops was finally disposed of in city court Saturday afternoon. Jacob Mitchell and Oliver Latour both pleaded guilty to information charging them with the theft and were sentenced. Jacob Mitchell received not less than one and a half years or more than two years at the state's prison at Windsor, and Oliver Latour was given not less than one year or more than fifteen months at the House of Correction. No disposition was made of the case of Nelson Latour, who was bound over to county court on the same charge some time ago.

Harris London, a second hand store man, accused of buying the brass above named, had his hearing Saturday. Mitchell and Latour both swore that he bought the brass of them. London put in no defence. He was bound over in the sum of \$500, which was furnished.

Filipino Gets Out of Jail.

Burlington, March 20.—Henry Davis, the Filipino or Malay, who has been doing a very short sentence at the county jail, has just been released, his term having expired. Davis is a brown youngster brought from the Philippines by some officers and who found a home in this country, having passed several months at Fort Ethan Allen. He fell into bad habits, however, and stole some clothing, was arrested and spent several months at the jail. He received a sentence of 15 days in the county jail at the recent term of the federal courts in Burlington, the light punishment being given in view of the fact that he had already been confined a long time. Now that his sentence has expired, the youth finds that he is without money or friends in a strange country, which is a difficult problem for him to solve. He says he is a native of Ceylon. He is intelligent and speaks the English language fairly well.

FUNERAL OF BLANCHE CRAIGE.

Well Known and Respected Young Lady of Graniteville Buried Saturday.

Graniteville, March 20.—The funeral of Miss Blanche Craige, a well known and respected young lady of Graniteville was held Saturday morning from the Presbyterian church, the Rev. Mr. Currier of Williamstown officiating.

There was a large attendance of friends and the following flowers were contributed: Broken column, by Baseball and Drogres club, M. W. A.; gates ajar, by Summit Lodge No. 307, N. E. O. P.; carnations and ferns, Rose and Agnes Olsen; carnations and ferns, Sarah Valley; carnations and ferns, Mrs. D. D. McAulay; carnations and ferns, Annie, Mary and Irene McLeod; calla lilies and flowers, W. H. Norris and family; carnations and ferns, Mrs. A. L. Foster; carnations and ferns, Mrs. A. Jenkins; bouquet of flowers, Mrs. John Murphy; carnations and ferns, Nelson Craige; carnations and ferns, Abbie Ricker; carnations and ferns, Edie McDonald and Mamie Riley; calla lilies, roses and carnations, Mrs. H. Palmer; carnations and ferns, Hazel and Ethel Wignest; carnations and ferns, Bessie Farnsworth; flowers, Mrs. Cogswell; carnations and ferns, Mrs. M. Hughes.

The deceased was operated upon for appendicitis Wednesday forenoon and died Wednesday evening at 9:30 o'clock. Besides her father and mother she leaves a brother, Nelson, and a large circle of friends to mourn her loss.

The bearers were Walter B. Drisko, James McDonald, Alexander Fraser, William Nutbrown, Duncan Fraser and Arthur McDonald.

F. W. LEIGHTON'S FUNERAL.

Body Taken to Quincy, Mass., Last Night for Burial.

The funeral of the late Frank W. Leighton was held yesterday afternoon at the house on Brooklyn street, the Rev. E. A. Poole officiating. Among the mourners were two brothers of the deceased, Levi and William, of Portland, Me., and three sisters of Mrs. Leighton, who reside in Quincy, Mass. The body was taken to Quincy, a former home of the deceased, for interment. The floral tributes were as follows:

Floral cars, employees of McDonald, Cutler & Co., floral crescent, Levi Leighton and wife, calla lilies, McDonald, Cutler & Co., carnations, Mrs. E. Duthie and family, Mrs. T. Stone, Florence Ames, sixth grade of public schools, Mr. and Mrs. McPhay, Band of Hope class of the Congregational Sunday school, calla lilies, fifth grade of public schools, Bernard C. Newman, pillow of flowers from the N. E. O. P. lodge, also pillow from the family.

OLD TIME CLERGYMAN.

Rev. R. M. Bunnell Died in Montpelier Aged 86 Years.

The Rev. R. M. Bunnell, an old time Methodist minister, who was well known in this city, died Saturday night at the home of Dr. G. R. Hunt in Montpelier, having reached the age of 86 years. Death was due to the general breaking down of the system on account of the weight of years. The deceased was for many years an active minister in the Vermont and New Hampshire conferences of the Methodist church. For the past ten years he had resided in Montpelier. While a pastor in Montpelier the Rev. Mr. Bunnell married Betsey Ann Kinney of this city.

The funeral will be held from the home of Dr. Hunt in Montpelier tomorrow morning, and the remains will be taken to Claremont, N. H., for interment.

JANE ANN GRANT.

Barre Woman Died at Heaton Hospital at Montpelier Sunday.

Jane Ann (Anderson) Grant, wife of William Grant of 24 Vine street, died at 1 o'clock Sunday morning at the Heaton hospital at Montpelier, where she was taken for treatment. She was 38 years of age and was born in Skene, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. She leaves besides her husband, a daughter who is now visiting in Scotland, and two sons in this city.

The funeral will be held from the Presbyterian church tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. The Rev. William S. Wallace of South Ryegate will officiate. The body will be placed in the tomb at Elmwood cemetery.

TO BUY OUT PARTNER.

C. W. Averill Will Pay \$22,500 for E. A. Prindle's Interest.

E. A. Prindle of the firm of Prindle & Averill, hardware dealers and plumbers, has accepted the offer of his partner, Charles W. Averill, to purchase the entire property held by the firm, embracing the three-story brick building on the east side of North Main street, called the "Jackman block," the hardware store and three tenement houses located in various sections of the city. The price settled upon is \$22,500. Papers in the transfer have not been made but it is expected that they will be signed today. The valuation of the tenements is placed at \$3,000 and that of the block, which was purchased for \$14,000 a few years ago, at \$20,000. The store and its goods will make up the remainder of the total sum.

WASHINGTON.

W. A. George has purchased the farm now occupied by Fillmore Edward and is moving onto the same.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Craig of Graniteville, who died last week, was buried Saturday in the Fish cemetery in this town.

T. R. Triltsch lost a valuable work horse Saturday morning.

300 WEAVERS STRIKE.

Richard Borden's Employees in Fall River Disatisfied.

Fall River, Mass., March 20.—Three hundred weavers struck this morning at the Richard Borden mill No. 1, on account of the ten loom rule.

A THAW AND MUCH WATER

The Usual Spring Flood Was Threatened Yesterday.

PRESENT DANGER IS PAST

Store Keepers on Main Street Began to Look Toward Stevens Branch—Residents in Currier Park Section Had Trouble With Little Potash.

The thaw, followed by the slight rain of Saturday night, caused the streams in this vicinity to rise considerably and gave much apprehension over the probability of the usual "spring flood," but outside of a bad wetting down to the residents along Potash brook there was no damage done. The river in the rear of the Main street buildings on the west rose steadily during the day, but at the highest point was far below the danger mark. Nevertheless, the storekeepers kept an eye on their cellars. The greater portion of the ice in the river has not yet gone out and until that leaves there will be no certainty that the cellars of the stores will not be flooded. In the Currier Park section, church-goers had a hard time. Potash brook overflowed its confines at Currier street and a swift stream went down Cliff street, cutting off East and Park streets and again finding its proper channel on Elm street. Rubber boots were the popular footwear.

A break in the city water main on Washington street gave the water department all it could attend to Saturday night and Sunday, but they finally got it satisfactorily patched up. The water from an overflowing surface sewer on Washington street ran into the Spaulding school basement, but it was discovered early and turned aside before any damage had been done.

Railroad Track Galled.

The track of the Montpelier & Wells River R. R. just below Dodge's bridge, between this city and Montpelier, was badly galled out yesterday afternoon shortly after one o'clock. A small brook runs under the track at this point and it had gradually undermined the banking until a considerable portion caved in. Notice was sent to the Montpelier office and workmen were sent to fix it up. The track was in shape so that trains went over it this morning, while the railroad officials are congratulating themselves that the break was discovered so soon.

Blasted Ice From River.

Montpelier, March 20.—In anticipation of a flood the officials here started yesterday afternoon the breaking up of the ice in the river. The work was started at the mouth of the Dog river and by last night the ice had been cleared with the use of dynamite, to the Langdon farm. The blasting was continued today.

APPREHENSION AT BETHEL.

But Lower Temperature Has Prevented Flood for a Time.

Bethel, March 20.—After a warm day and slight rain the White River turned into madness. Excitement along the river front ran high in anticipation of great danger. This was increased when the ice lifted, moved and jammed at the village bridge, where the river turns abruptly at right angles. For a mile below the bridge, the ice remains intact. Another gorge is formed near Gayville, and a portion of the highway is inundated.

Many along the river front this morning moved their stock to protected quarters. The river is breaking a week earlier than a year ago, when the iron bridge nearly suffered removal. The ice now is about two feet thick. The Hobbin company lost some timbers from their yard before they could bind them in.

The White River Valley R. R. suffered its annual washout in several places. The road will be out of commission for a few days. A snow storm came on during last night and three inches of snow, the empyvypbUpUadMdnoc which checks the flood somewhat.

MADE FAST HITCH.

Fire Department Gave Nice Demonstration Before Big Crowd.

An alarm for a chimney burning out in the house on Granite street, owned by Scott and Townsend, at 7:50 o'clock last evening gave an opportunity for the fire department to show off its paces, which it did to good advantage. The box was No. 12 and by the time the second call was completed the chemical engine was out of the new station on South Main street and on its way to the fire. The new team, "Joker" and "Jingles," drawing the hook and ladder truck, was only a few seconds behind and chased the chemical down Main street. Two hose carts were also brought out. The fire, what there was, contented itself by giving an exhibition of sputtering fireworks from the chimney of the house occupied by Mrs. Polonghini, while a big crowd looked on. It was the fastest hitch the firemen ever made.

Northfield High School Defeated.

Northfield, March 20.—At Artery hall Saturday night the Northfield high school basketball team was defeated by Brattleboro high by a score of 10 to 15. The game was fast and exciting and both sides played good, clean ball. The Brattleboro team was heavier, better shots and surer in passing.